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20 November 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT : ORR Report on Bloc Copper Trade in 1955 (CIA/RR 110)

1. You asked why it took 21 months to get out the recent ORR report entitled, "The Copper Trade of the Sino-Soviet Bloc in 1955." ORR reacts as follows to this question:

a. Initially, there was a great deal of dissension in the intelligence community concerning Bloc trade in copper and a great deal of information was was collected in ORR in support of the discussions with trade control people. In recent months the dissension has been resolved and there is now general agreement in the intelligence community on the nature of Bloc trade in copper. As a result of this changed atmosphere, ORR decided that the material collected in the course of the preceding discussions should be published in the form of formal reports to put the facts on record. Although they could have combined figures for 1955 and 1956 in a single report to avoid the appearance of being so far behind the event, they decided to publish a series of separate reports to get the older material out as soon as possible. This report is the first of the series.

b. AD/RR recognizes that this is not a terribly sound excuse for the delay.

W. A. TIDWELL
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